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REMARKS**Status of Claims**

Claims 1-7 and 9-14 are pending in the application. Claims 15-27 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-7 and 9-14 stand rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 7 has been amended herein to contain the limitations of claims 9 and 10 to define that the position of the second nozzle is upstream of the first nozzle and that the second nozzle directs air at the filaments. Claims 9-10 have been canceled herein. No new matter has been added and Applicants respectfully request that these amendments be entered.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reese (4,141,709).

In contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, Reese teaches an apparatus for producing glass fibers having spray nozzles 18, 22 which direct cooling fluid, i.e., water at the glass filaments.

Nowhere does Reese teach or suggest an apparatus having a first nozzle which directs air at the filaments, as Applicants' claim (claim 1). It would not have been obvious to direct air from the nozzles of Reese as Reese specifically teaches that the environment below the glass fiber forming bushing is controlled by creating a vortex of air in front of the bushing using a pair of cooling panels, flowing a liquid cooling fluid across the filaments via spray nozzles and carrying the cooling fluid upwardly toward the bushing by means of the air vortex to thereby create a mist or fog of liquid cooling fluid in the region immediately below the bushing (col. 2, lines 27-35).

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 clearly defines over Reese. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(b) rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-4, 6-7, and 9-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nichols et al. (4,033,742) in view of Flautt et al. (5,055,119).

The Examiner states that Nichols et al. show the invention of bushing 14, two different nozzles 16 and 16' where they are both downstream of the bushing and 16' (the second nozzle) being downstream of the other nozzle.

Applicants respectfully submit that Nichols et al. teach, at col. 8, lines 59-60, that nozzles 16, 16' are arranged in a generally opposing relationship on two sides of the orifice area. Nowhere do Nichols et al. teach or suggest a second nozzle located at a second position downstream of said first nozzle as Applicants claim (claim 1).

The Examiner states that claims 7 and 9-14 are clearly met by Nichols et al. in view of Flautt et al..

Claim 7 has been amended to contain the limitations of claims 9 and 10 to define that the position of the second nozzle is upstream of the first nozzle and that the second nozzle directs air at the filaments. Nichols et al. fail to teach or suggest a second located at a second position upstream of said first nozzle as Applicants claim (claim 7). As stated above, Nichols et al. specifically teach nozzles arranged in a generally opposing relationship on two sides of the orifice area (col. 8, lines 59-60).

As Nichols et al. fail to teach or suggest all the claim limitations, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action does not meet the criteria for establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness. See MPEP §2143. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the 103(a) rejection of claims 1 and 2-4 and 6, which

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ultimately depend from claim 1, and claims 7 and 11-14, which ultimately depend from claim 7, be withdrawn.

Claims 4-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reese as applied to claim 1, above, and further in view of Haruch (6,161,778).

As stated above, Reese does not teach or suggest Applicants' claimed invention (claim 1). Claims 4-5 ultimately depend from claim 1 and contain the limitations thereof. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the 103(a) rejection of claims 4-5, which ultimately depend from claim 1, be withdrawn.

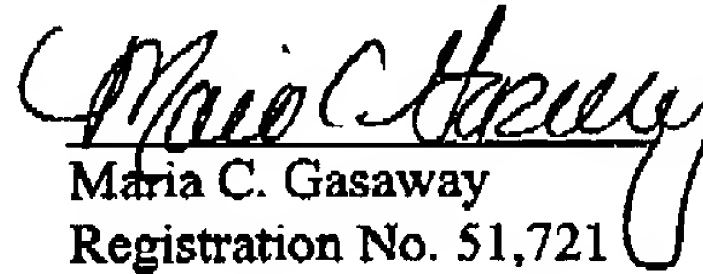
Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that claims 1-7 and 11-14 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited. If any questions should arise with respect to the above Remarks, or if the Examiner has any comments or suggestions to place the claims in better condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' agent at the number listed below.

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Applicants authorize any fees required pertaining to this response be charged
to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,


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